

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Chikashi NAKAMURA et al.

Application No.: 10/574,910

Filing Date: April 7, 2006

Attorney Docket No.: 8156/88120

Confirmation No.: 7124

Customer No.: 42798

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:  
SUBMISSION OF IPER**

Commissioner for Patents  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicants enclose herewith the IPER (copy) for the U.S. Examiner's review and consideration. The IPER reports prior art and it concludes that all claims in the PCT application are patentable over that prior art:

"[t]he inventions set forth in claims 1 to 16 are not indicated or suggested in documents 1-3, which are cited in the international search report; *therefore, the inventions in question are novel and involve inventive step.*"

It will be appreciated that the determination reported means the claimed inventions in this U.S. National Stage application were held novel and unobvious (by analogy to inventive step).

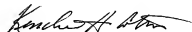
Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Date: February 14, 2007

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